

'Rollin' on the River' a Great Success!

AUGUST 2011

VOLUME #1 ISSUE #1



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*And a special thanks to all who
donated door prizes for the
conference!*

2011 MACE Summer Conference Recap: 'Rollin' on the River'

The 2011 MACE Summer Conference was held at the Ameristar Casino Hotel in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Fifty-one MACE members attended this year's conference and twenty-one attendees were new members! MACE has strived to increase its membership this year under the direction of President Casey Cockrell. As she hands over the reins to incoming President, Mark McCloud, this goal will continue.

Highlights from the conference include several distinguished guest speakers who each brought their expertise and advice to MACE members. Linda Fondren, Owner of ShapeUp Sisters Gym and CNN Hero recipient discussed how losing her sister to obesity encouraged her to step up and get involved in helping others win their battle with obesity. She started a gym just for women; began local walk clubs in Vicksburg; and ultimately helped Vicksburg citizens lose 15,000 pounds. She encouraged the participants to exercise 30 minutes a day and to just get out and become active even if that meant parking further from your office. She repeatedly stated, "Make some changes in your health!" She was a great inspiration to the MACE participants.

George Stadler, General Manager of Ameristar Casino and Angela Berch, Workforce Development Coordinator of Copiah-Lincoln Community College Workforce Development Department, participated in a panel discussion on The River: Impact on Education, Economics, and Entertainment. The panelists emphasized the importance of the Mississippi River on local economics and development in Vicksburg and surrounding river cities. They discussed the recent flooding of the area, and its impact on the region. They offered information on the recent push to bring new jobs to the area. Lastly, they answered several questions from the members in regards to employment and economics for the area.

Kenneth Grigsby, Attorney at Law, provided the closing luncheon remarks. He discussed the importance of balance in one's career and family life. He shared a story of a young child and the child's experience during an Easter egg hunt. He told that during the hunt the child had entrusted his grandfather to hold all of his Easter eggs. When the child was asked why he had chosen the grandfather over his siblings and friends closer to his age, the child responded by saying he knew the grandfather would give the eggs to him when he returned. In turn, the child trusted him. Kenneth reminded us to acknowledge those who look up to us and to remember to always be the ones others want to entrust.

Thanks once again to all of our sponsors for helping make this year's conference a great experience! And a special thanks to Mark McCloud, President, for organizing the "2011 MACE Conference, Rollin' on the River."

-Amanda L. Walker, MACE Director of Marketing & Technology

MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND EMPLOYERS

MACE is comprised of career service professionals from two and four year colleges and universities and employers who are involved in the recruitment of students for cooperative education and full-time career opportunities.

Through the association's professional network, MACE members help bridge education and the work world.

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